BOOM
EXILES
MARVEL
65

THE PANOPTICHRON OBSERVATORY
A.K.A. "THE CRYSTAL PALACE"
OUTSIDE SPACE AND TIME

WELL, IT'S ABOUT TIME SOMEONE GAVE ME A REAL FIGHT!

FAASSSS

FWOOOSH

-NFF- I COULD USE A HAND WITH THIS...

TIMEBREAKERS
CONCLUSION

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KEEP FIRING, I'M ON IT!

=HURK=

THOOM

THIS IS GOING TO GET *ROUGH*, BARNELL! FIND A PLACE TO *HIDE!*

WHERE?!

SKRA KOOM

I HOPE THEY DON'T *DESTROY* THIS PLACE WHILE TRYING TO *SAVE* IT!

BEAK. WE SAW YOU FROZEN INSIDE THAT "WALL OF FALLEN HEROES"...

ONE OF THE *INSECT-PEOPLE* WOKE ME UP, BLINK.

THEY EXPECTED *ME* TO DEFEAT HYPERION, EVEN THOUGH NOBODY ELSE COULD.

THIS IS THE WHOLE *REASON* THEY MADE ME AN EXILE--TO BEAT THIS *MONSTER!*

WELL, YOU CAME UP WITH...A PRETTY *GOOD SOLUTION*, BARNELL. I GUESS THE TIMEBREAKERS SAW SOMETHING IN YOU...THE REST OF US *MISSED*.

NO OFFENSE.

NONE TAKEN, MIMIC...

"...I JUST HOPE THEY TAKE THEIR FIGHT *OUTSIDE*."

UH, BLINK...? WHERE IS EVERY-ONE *ELSE?*

MORPH AND SABRETOOTH ARE BACK IN THE *DESERT ROOM.*

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "DESERT ROOM"?

IT MEANS THAT IN ONE OF THESE HALLS, THERE'S A *DOORWAY* THAT LEADS TO A *DESERT.*

JUST LIKE *THAT* ONE LEADS TO AN *OCEAN.*

NAMORA IS IN THERE.

SHE FOUGHT HYPERION *ALONE.* THE WATER *BOILED.* I DON'T...

...I DON'T KNOW IF HE...

SHE'S GOING TO BE *MAD* IF SHE HEARS YOU TALKING THAT WAY...

THERE SHE IS!

I SUCK AT SWIMMING. CAN *YOU* "BLINK" HER OUT?

RRRRMMMBLE

--KILL YOU BOTH AND EAT YOUR--

-SQUAWWK!-

WHAK

THRUNCH

WHOA!

PLOOOSH

BL--
-GOOMPH-

SPLASSH

?

SHHH!

BLINNNKK

THOOOOM

GASP

BLOOOOMK

BEAK! YOU MAKE BAD SITUATION *WORSE!*

BATTLE OF HYPERIONS WILL DESTROY *PANOPTICHRON* ITSELF!

WHAT HAVE YOU *DONE?!*

HEY, *YOU* PUT ME IN CHARGE OF THE *RESCUE EFFORT!*

WAIT A MINUTE. YOU PEOPLE CAN SEE THE *FUTURE*. I MEAN, YOU KNEW AHEAD OF TIME THAT BEAK WOULD SAVE THE DAY, DIDN'T YOU?

SO WHY DIDN'T YOU KNOW *THIS* WOULD HAPPEN?

IF *TRULY* WE COULD SEE FUTURE, WE WOULD *PREVENT* HYPERION FROM ASSUMING CONTROL.

BUT TEMPORAL SCANNERS INDICATE ONLY *POSSIBLE* OUTCOMES. NO CERTAINTIES, ONLY *PROBABILITIES*...

KROOOOM

TWENTY-THREE ΔΓΩ CYCLES AGO, CHRONAL EXTRA-POLATORS PREDICT IMMINENT *CATASTROPHIC FAILURE* OF PANOPTICHRON.

WE DID NOT KNOW SAID CATASTROPHE WOULD ARRIVE AS *HYPERION.*

SEARCH WE DID FOR ELEMENT TO *DECREASE* PROBABILITY OF DISASTER. SCANNERS INDICATE *BEAK* BEST CANDIDATE TO AVERT CALAMITY. EXACTLY *HOW,* UNCLEAR.

SO YOU JUST PUT HIM ON THE TEAM AND HOPED FOR THE *BEST?*

UH, YES.

BA-KOOM

IF WE KNEW HIS SOLUTION WOULD BE *THIS,* WE WOULD NEVER EVEN *CONSIDER* HIM!

"NO GOOD DEED GOES UNPUNISHED," RIGHT?

THESE GUYS HAVE *A LOT* TO LEARN ABOUT *GRATITUDE.*

SKRROOOM

AIEEE!

KRUNKL

THRAK

SKRAM

GET OFF ME!

BLINNNK

WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?

YOU'RE NOT THE *FIRST* BAD VERSION OF ME I'VE FOUGHT! YOU'LL GO DOWN JUST LIKE *HE* DID!

BLNNNNK

AND WHAT THE DEVIL ARE *THESE* THINGS SUPPOSED TO DO? DON'T YOU EVEN *HAVE* FLASH-VISION?

SHUCK

AH!

HEY!

FAB

WHU--?

WHUD

GAKK!

THANKS FOR THE HAND, MIMIC.

KRUNCH

HRAAHHH!

SKREEM

IS THIS PLACE FLOATING IN *SPACE*, OR WHAT? BECAUSE IF THEY BREACH THE *HULL* OR SOMETHING, WILL ALL THE *AIR* IN HERE GET SUCKED OUT?

I DO NOT KNOW, BLINK.

THERE IS NOTHING OUTSIDE PANOPTICHRON WE STAND APART FROM SPACE AND TIME

BUT STILL WE CAN DIE HERE! INSTRUMENTS SHOW STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY CRITICAL-- MPLOSION MMINENT!

WE HAVE TO MOVE THEIR FIGHT OUT OF HERE, BUT KEEP IT CONTAINED SOMEHOW...

CAN WE NOT JUST SEND THOSE GUYS TO AN ALTERNATE REALITY?

ONLY IF THEY ENTER EXCURSION PLATFORM.

OKAY....AND WHAT EXACTLY IS AN EXCURSION PLATFORM?

WHERE YOU F RST ARRIVE HERE. SMALL ROOM WITH ALCOVE?

RIGHT KINDA LIKE THE TRANSPORTER ROOM ON STAR TREK.

WE ARE NOT JUST GONNA UNLEASH THOSE GUYS ON SOME OTHER EARTH I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA..

GAHH!

FWOOSSS

YOU JOKERS MIGHT BE MAN ENOUGH--

-WHUNG-

WHRAM

--BUT YOU'RE JUST NOT MEAN ENOUGH!

HEY, FELLAS!

BLINK

BLOOOOOONK

MORPH! CAN YA HEAR ME?

I CAN'T TELL IF YOU'RE ALIVE OR DEAD YOU GOTTA GIVE ME A SIGN, MAN!

BLOOONK

AW, NO..

GONNA GET YA SOME COVER-- FER A... THE GOOD IT'LL DO

YOU BLEW IT, BLINK! THAT WAS PROBABLY THE LAST TIME YOU'LL EVER GET THE DROP ON ME.

YOU COULD'VE TELEPORTED MY HEAD OFF MY SHOULDERS OR SOMETHING. INSTEAD YOU BRING US HERE?

AT LEAST WE WON'T WRECK THE CRYSTAL PALACE ANY MORE.

BUT IF YOU THINK I'M AT A DISADVANTAGE HERE, THEN YOU'VE ALREADY FORGOTTEN MY SANDSTORM TRICK ..

I REMEMBER ALL YOUR TRICKS, HYPERION!

OR NOT! A LITTLE HYPER-VIBRATION AND YOU CAN'T TOUCH ME!

VWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWM

SPINK

YOU KNOW THE THING ABOUT SAND...?

BLINK

BLUNK

-HRK-

IT GETS IN EVERYWHERE.

WHAT HAPPENED?

SWEET LORD--!

I THINK SHE JUST STUFFED HALF A TON OF SAND IN HIM...!

QUICK! BEFORE HE RECOVERS!

THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE TO KILL HIM. AREN'T THEY?

...

ACTIVATE THE TIMEBROKER. I NEED TO SPEAK TO BLINK.

BuT--

DO IT NOW!

SMART MOVE, PUP, BUT WHERE'D YOU COME UP WITH THOSE TWO?

BEAK DID IT.

THE BIRD-KID? REMIND ME NOT TO GET ON HIS BAD SIDE.

STOP! DON'T KILL HIM!

WHO SAID THAT?

I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE. SOME *FRIEND* OF OUR EVIL TWIN, HERE...?

...UNHH...

CLARICE, IT'S ME-- *CAL*. WE DON'T HAVE TO TAKE HYPERION'S *LIFE* IN ORDER TO STOP HIM.

COME ON! NOW THAT HE'S ON THE ROPES, YOUR BOYFRIEND GETS *SQUEAMISH...?!*

CAL *SWORE* NEVER TO KILL AGAIN.

WE CAN'T TAKE THAT KIND OF *RISK* JUST TO SPARE MIMIC'S *FEELINGS!*

HEY, I AGREED TO *HELP* AGAINST THIS PIECE OF FILTH, BUT I'M *NO KILLER*.

NEITHER AM *I*. IF THE BUTLER HAS AN ALTERNATIVE, I WANT TO *HEAR* IT.

÷HAKK÷ ÷KOFF÷

AS A MATTER OF FACT...

"...I ASKED THE TIMEBREAKERS WHERE THEY *FOUND* THIS HYPERION. I MEAN, HE WASN'T A *THREAT* TO EVERYONE ELSE UNTIL THEY STUCK HIM ON THE *WEAPON X* TEAM.

"THEY TOLD ME HE'D *TAKEN OVER* THE EARTH HE GREW UP ON, BUT THAT WORLD REFUSED TO SUBMIT PEACEFULLY.

"WITH ALL THEIR HEROES DEAD AND THEIR ARMIES IN SHAMBLES, THE LEADERS OF HIS EARTH CHOSE TO BOMB THEIR OWN WORLD INTO *NUCLEAR WINTER.*

"BY THE TIME THE TIMEBREAKERS FOUND HIM, KING HYPERION HAD BEEN ALL ALONE FOR *YEARS*-- THE GOD-EMPEROR OF A RADIOACTIVE *DUSTBALL.*"

ANYWHERE BUT HERE!

NO... NO...

...NOT BACK *HERE...*

NEVER SURRENDER

PLEEEEASE--!

TURN OFF THE SOUND, WOULD YOU?

OKAY, MIMIC, YOU GOT YOUR WISH. NOW YOU BETTER PRAY THAT GUY NEVER ***ESCAPES***-- 'SPECIALLY SINCE HE ***KNOWS*** WE'RE OUT HERE.

I'LL SLEEP JUST FINE, SABRETOOTH. I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT IF I'LL EVER ***WALK*** AGAIN.

WELL, I GUESS WE NEED TO GET ***YOU TWO*** BACK WHERE YOU BELONG NOW.

YEAH, UM, ABOUT THAT. ME AND, ER... ***MYSELF*** HERE HAVE BEEN ***TALKING***...

WE'RE NOT SO SURE WE CAN ***LEAVE*** THIS PLACE IN YOUR HANDS. THE POTENTIAL DAMAGE IF SOMEONE ***MISUSES*** THIS TECHNOLOGY...

THE ONLY ***RESPONSIBLE*** THING FOR US TO DO MIGHT BE TO ASSUME CONTROL HERE.

BEAK ALREADY ***EXPLAINED*** WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO FOR THE LAST FEW MONTHS.

I UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERN, BUT AFTER ALL THE REALITIES WE'VE ***SAVED***, FRANKLY THERE'S ***NO ONE*** BETTER QUALIFIED TO SAFEGUARD THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

I'M ***SORRY***, BLINK, BUT WE CAN'T JUST TAKE ***YOUR*** WORD FOR IT.

YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, WE TRUST.

BARNELL, IF NOT FOR YOU, MY ENTIRE REALITY WOULD HAVE BEEN AT THE MERCY OF THAT THING CALLING ITSELF HYPERION.

WE ARE FOREVER IN YOUR DEBT. IF YOU WILL VOUCH FOR THESE PEOPLE, WE CAN GO HOME SECURE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT AT LEAST ONE TRUE HERO IS LOOKING AFTER THIS PLACE.

YOU GOTTA BE FREAKIN' KIDDING--

YES, HYPERION. I'LL DO EVERYTHING I CAN SO THAT THIS PLACE IS NEVER MISUSED. AND I'LL VOUCH FOR THE EXILES... BUT I REALLY DON'T HAVE TO.

THERE ARE DOZENS OF WORLDS OUT THERE THAT OWE EVERYTHING TO THESE PEOPLE. THAT'S ALL THE PROOF YOU SHOULD NEED.

DON'T BE A STRANGER!

FASSSH

GOODBYE! THANK YOU!

SO I GUESS YOU'LL BE STICKING AROUND HERE FOR A WHILE, HUH?

ARE YOU KIDDING? THE MINUTE WE GET MIMIC AND MORPH THE MEDICAL HELP THEY NEED, YOU ARE SENDING ME HOME!

BUT--

I ONLY SAID THAT STUFF SO THEY'D LEAVE.

NO OFFENSE, BUT GIVEN THE CHOICE BETWEEN RISKING MY LIFE EVERY WEEK, OR SPENDING MY DAYS STARING AT MY GIRLFRIEND'S BIG, BEAUTIFUL BUTT...

TOO MUCH INFORMATION, BEAK, BUT I READ YOU LOUD AND CLEAR.

HA! I'M STARTIN' TO THINK YOU GOT YOUR HEAD SCREWED ON STRAIGHTER THAN THE REST OF US PUT TOGETHER!

NEXT:
THE DOCTOR IS IN!